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one at a very slight expense, these properties do not contribute to the welfare of society except in proportion to the expense their utilization necessitates.

And yet, with all its faults of exaggeration and suppression, Mr. Malloch's book contains many suggestive ideas, and shows a mind not debauched by a too reverent study of the standard writers on political economy. There is a freshness about his manner of treating some aspects of the problems of production and distribution that makes even his reckless flinging of statistics palatable. For the rest, the tone of the book is exceedingly conservative, though the author's style is characteristically radical, and the conclusions arrived at for the guidance of the laboring class, to which the book appeals, are at once sympathetic and sound.

HENRY R. SEAGER.

University of Pennsylvania.

Soziale Kämpfe vor dreihundert Jahren. Von BRUNO SCHOENLAUBE.
Leipzig: Duncker und Humblot, 1894.

So long as we still possess no comprehensive economic history, fragments are very welcome. We have a particularly valuable contribution to a future economic history in the present study by Schoenlaube. It leads us into the heart of the struggles which took place in mediæval Nuremberg between masters and journeymen, struggles which present a prelude to the present conflict between the proletariat and employers. The description of the condition of the crafts in Nuremberg is especially of great interest, because there were no guilds in that city and the craftsmen were subordinated to the municipal control, then in the hands of the merchant princes. The author shows us the different stages through which the journeyman-labor movement passed—the period of its early struggles, of its greatest success and of its decline. The town council of Nuremberg opposed the first efforts of the journeyman class to stand on their own feet and, by independent unions, to resist the oppressive economic ascendancy of their masters. Nevertheless, the movement grew stronger and stronger, and in the first half of the sixteenth century it reached its highest development. The journeyman organizations tried to regulate the working day, wages, and the adjustment of labor matters. The public authorities took steps against the movement, at first to no purpose, afterward only with the result that a compromise was effected, according to which the journeyman organizations were tolerated but were placed under a journeyman commission which was ratified by the police and supervised by the Town Council. The author tells in an intensely interesting manner how the social conditions in the

crafts developed under these regulations, till the decay of the trades in general ensued at the time of the decline of Nuremberg in consequence of the effects of the Thirty Years' War.

KARL, DIEHL.

[Translated from the German by ELLEN C. SEMPLE.]

An Introduction to the Study of Society. By ALBION W. SMALL, and GEORGE E. VINCENT. Pp. 384. Price \$1.80. New York and Chicago: American Book Company, 1894.

It is but fair when judging a new book on sociology to recall the circumstances under which at present such a book must be written. The subject is new to science, and confessedly the most difficult with which science can deal. The data are scattered and often almost inaccessible. The literature is tentative and erratic, providing as yet no adequate traditions to give direction to farther study. Social prejudices, deep and far reaching, make society intolerant of frank utterance, and tend to distort the observer's perspective. Last, but not least, a sudden and somewhat unintelligent demand for books in this line creates a scramble to be first in the field to the neglect of care and thoroughness. Such conditions seldom produce good books, never the best.

It is sufficient proof of the inchoate condition of the science that we open such a book first of all with the question, how does it define its subject? What is sociology anyway? Is it the science of pauperism and crime, or the science of socialism, or the science of goody-goodyism, or the science of fundamental social forces, or the science of all social phenomena? The answer to this important question is found in the first of the five "books" into which the work is divided. "The primary function of sociology at present is the correlation of existing knowledge about society. . . . It is quite possible that the division of labor in sociology will eventually become so systematized that the function of sociology will be restricted within more precise limits. At present a miscellaneous responsibility confronts students who regard society philosophically. Such students are in the ranks of all the social sciences. Sociology is enlisting from this number recruits for the special work of organizing social knowledge of all kinds into a body of wisdom available as a basis of deliberate social procedure." Under such a definition the author will hardly find himself straitened for lack either of latitude or elasticity. A farther chapter on the relation of sociology to social reforms contains a number of statements which must be taken as amplifying if not more exactly defining the author's ideas. Such are the following: "Sociology is a protest against quackery;" "it is not a pastime for amateurs;" "it is not a synonym